

American forms remains unchanged. The group ranges from southern Canada to Cape Horn, including the West Indies.—J. A. A.

Oberholser on the American Great Horned Owls.<sup>1</sup>—Mr. Oberholser considers the Great Horned Owls of America—North, Central, and South—as all referable to a single species, which he regards as divisible into 16 subspecies, of which 7 are restricted to Mexico, Central America, and South America, the remaining 11 coming within the limits of the A. O. U. Check-List—an increase of 4 over the number hitherto recognized in the Check-List. He follows Mr. Stone (Auk, XX, 1903, pp. 272-276) in adopting *Asio* in place of *Bubo* for the name of the genus, and takes the name *magellanicus* in place of *virginianus* for the species, the former having one page precedence over the latter in Gmelin's 'Systema Naturæ,' where both names were originally given. Both names have heretofore been in current use, but the forms to which they were given have generally been held to be specifically distinct. Now that it is found necessary to unite them, *magellanicus* becomes, unfortunately, the correct name for the group, thus replacing the long familiar designation *virginianus* for the North American forms. Mr. Oberholser's revision is based on an examination of "more than 200 specimens, representing all but one of the American forms." The North American forms recognized are the following:

1. *Asio magellanicus pallescens* (Stone). "Western Texas to southeastern California; south to northern Mexico."
2. *Asio magellanicus pacificus* (Cassin). "California, except the southeastern part and the northern and central coast districts; extending northward to Fort Klamath, Oregon, eastward to San Francisco Mountains, Arizona."
3. *Asio magellanicus elachistus* (Brewster). "Southern Lower California."
4. *Asio magellanicus icelus* Oberholser. "Coast of California, north of about 35° north latitude."
5. *Asio magellanicus lagophonus* Oberholser. "Washington and northern Oregon (excepting the coast region), with Idaho; north through eastern and Central British Columbia to Cook Inlet and the interior of Alaska."
6. *Asio magellanicus saturatus* (Ridgway). "Pacific coast region, from Washington (and probably at least northern Oregon) north to southern Alaska."
7. *Asio magellanicus heterocnemis* Oberholser. "Labrador, including at least the north coast of the Territory of Ungava."

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<sup>1</sup> A Revision of the American Great Horned Owls. By Harry C. Oberholser, Assistant Ornithologist, Department of Agriculture. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXVII, No. 1352, pp. 177-192. Feb. 1904.

8. *Asio magellanicus virginianus* (Gmelin). "Southern Canada and eastern United States, west to Ontario, Wisconsin, Iowa, and eastern Texas; accidental in Ireland."
9. *Asio magellanicus algistus* Oberholser. "Northwest coast region of Alaska."
10. *Asio magellanicus occidentalis* (Stone). "Western United States, from Minnesota and Kansas to Nevada, southeastern Oregon, Utah, and Montana; south in winter to Iowa."
11. *Asio magellanicus wapacuthu* (Gmelin). "Northern Canada, from Hudson Bay to the Valley of the Mackenzie River; south in winter to the northern United States, from Idaho to Wisconsin."—J. A. A.

Snodgrass and Heller on the 'Birds of the Galapagos Archipelago.'<sup>1</sup>—This new revision of the birds of the Galapagos Archipelago recognizes 80 species and 30 additional subspecies. The synonymy, and the bibliographical references that refer especially to the Galapagos, are given for each, with its range, and especially its distribution and manner of occurrence in the Archipelago, together with biographical observations, often extended, notes on the color of the naked parts, etc., and many tables of measurements of large series of specimens. The authors follow rather closely the nomenclature of Rothschild and Hartert, using trinomials for insular forms when their variations overlap, "regardless of the possibility or impossibility of their interbreeding." The *Geospiza* group, sometimes separated into four or more genera, is treated as a genus with three subgenera. Six different phases of plumage are described, and denominated 'stages,' and numbered I to VI; three of these are found to coincide with the differences in the form of the bill, on which the subgeneric groups have been principally based, while the other three are immature phases characterizing young birds, shared unequally by the members of the several subgenera. The discussion of this group, with the voluminous but important notes on habits, song, etc., occupies 75 pages, or nearly one half of the entire memoir.

Although Snodgrass and Heller have described (in previous papers) a number of new species and subspecies from the Galapagos, the number of forms (110) now recognized exceeds by two only the number given by Rothschild and Hartert in 1899,<sup>2</sup> quite a number of the 14 added by these authors being here reduced to synonyms.

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<sup>1</sup> Papers from the Hopkins-Stanford Galapagos Expedition, 1898-1899. XVI. Birds. By Robert Evans Snodgrass and Edmund Heller. Proc. Washington Acad. Sci., Vol. V, pp. 231-372. Jan. 28, 1904.

<sup>2</sup> For a notice of Rothschild and Hartert's 'Review of the Ornithology of the Galapagos Islands,' see Auk, XVII, July, 1900, pp. 300-303; for a notice of Ridgway's 'Birds of the Galapagos Archipelago' see *ibid.*, XIV, July, 1897, pp. 329, 330.